

PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH

2010

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, we hereby recognize and acknowledge 130 years of public health service to the residents of North Carolina, and the immeasurable contribution of these services to the quality of life in our State; and

WHEREAS, public health measures to control and eliminate infectious diseases, improve environmental sanitation, and promote healthy lifestyle practices have been the greatest cause of improved health status and increased life expectancy for North Carolina's residents, such that North Carolinians now have an average life expectancy at birth of more than 77 years; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's public health system plays an essential role in controlling the spread of communicable diseases, including the novel H1N1 Influenza; and

WHEREAS, public health plays a critical role in eliminating health inequities and preventing chronic diseases and injuries, resulting in improved productivity and decreased health care costs for all North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, a continued focus on prevention has resulted in a 23 percent decline in age-adjusted heart disease since 2000, a 32 percent decline in age-adjusted stroke deaths since 2000, and a 23 percent decline in the teen pregnancy rate since 2000; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's public health system is a critical component of the state's emergency response capacity to natural and man-made disasters and widespread disease outbreaks in North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2010, as "PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH" in North Carolina and urge our citizens to recognize that public health is working to ensure that all North Carolinians are protected from threats such as influenza, food-borne disease and chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and asthma.

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this second day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.